

Docket No.: 55071-131

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Xuelong SHI, et al.

Serial No.:

Filed: February 27, 2002

:
:
:
:
:
:
:

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

For: METHOD OF IDENTIFYING AN EXTREME INTERACTION PITCH REGION,
METHODS OF DESIGNING MASK PATTERNS AND MANUFACTURING MASKS,
DEVICE MANUFACTURING METHODS AND COMPUTER PROGRAMS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before "FIELD OF THE INVENTION" insert the following:

--RELATED APPLICATION

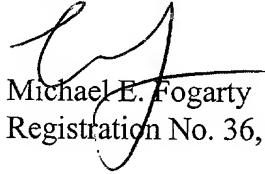
This application is a Continuation-In-Part of United States Patent Application No. 09/840,305, filed April 24, 2001, which claims priority from United States Provisional Patent Application No. 60/271,722 filed on February 28, 2001, the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein.--

REMARKS

The above-referenced application is amended to insert the priority information into the specification. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY



Michael E. Fogarty
Registration No. 36,139

600 13th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005-3096
(202) 756-8000 MEF:mlw
Date: February 27, 2002
Facsimile: (202) 756-8087

MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE CHANGES

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before "FIELD OF THE INVENTION" the following has been inserted:

--RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a Continuation-In-Part of United States Patent Application No. 09/840,305, filed April 24, 2001, which claims priority from United States Provisional Patent Application No. 60/271,722 filed on February 28, 2001, the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein.--

20040601 09:23:00